Sri Lankan: Due to ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, about 2,76,000 Sri Lankan refugees arrived in India upto 31.12.1999. While majority of the refugees have since been repatriated by the Government or are believed to have left India on their own, at present, about 66,500 refugees are accommodated in 129 camps in Tamil Nadu and 30,000, registered with Government of Tamil Nadu, are reportedly staying outside the camps in Tamil Nadu.

The policy of the Government is to discourage further influx of refugees and necessary steps have been taken in consultation with the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs for arranging their early repatriation to Sri Lanka. The expenditure incurred on relief to Sri Lankan refugees by Governments is being reimbursed by the Central Government. These reliefs include shelter in camps, cash assistance, clothing and subsidised ration and medical facilities.

Government servants joining RSS

1401. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government servants in the State of Gujarat have been allowed to participate in the activities of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it will not interfere in the neutrality in the working of Government servants in that State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what will be its repercussions at the all India level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat *vide* their Order dated 3.1.2000 have recently lifted the ban on their State Government employees from participating in the activities of RSS.

(c) to (e) In terms of entry No. 41 under 'List II-State List' of the VII Schedule to the Constitution of India, State Public Services are within the exclusive purview of the respective State Governments.

Article 309 of the Constitution lays down that the Governor of a State shall be the competent authority to make rules regulating the conditions of service of persons appointed to posts/services in connection with affairs of the respective States. However, the Central Government employees are not allowed to take part in the activities of RSS.

Regularisation of services in DSIDC

†1402. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of qualified diploma holders (Electrical) working as Work Assistants in Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation for more than one year who are being paid only Rs. 108 per day;

(b) whether they are being paid according to the minimum wages act, if not, the measures being taken to pay as per their qualification; and

(c) by when the services of the persons who have worked for more than 240 days will be regularised as per judgement of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The number of such diploma holders presently working as work Assistants (Electrical) in Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation is two.

(b) Their wages have been fixed in accordance with the rates prescribed in the Minimum Wages Act as per orders of the Government of N.C.T. of Delhi.

(c) There is no regular cadre of Work Assistants in Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi